



## Valley Forge National Historical Park to Mark 230<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Momentous “*March-In*”

November 29, 2007

*Event to feature noted historian George Neumann*

VALLEY FORGE, Pa. — Officials at Valley Forge National Historical Park are offering a host of free activities to commemorate the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of General Washington’s history-making “*March-In*” to Valley Forge, beginning on December 15 1777.

“The March-In is our favorite time of the year. The weekend events are fun *and* inspirational. The December 19 evening event is pure magic. The March-In commemorates the contributions and bravery of the men and women of the Continental Army. You can’t help being affected by it, and kids love it,” said Mike Caldwell, park superintendent.

On Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 15 and 16, from 1 to 3 p.m., in the Welcome Center, families with children ages six through 12 are invited to take part in programs designed to engage the imagination. Families can build edible soldiers’ huts to take home, join a soldiers’ march, and visit the Muhlenberg Brigade to see hut construction in action.

Beginning at 4 p.m. on Saturday, noted collector and historian George Neumann will meet visitors in the Welcome Center, discussing the major collection of historic artifacts that he assembled to illustrate the life of the soldier at Valley Forge.

At 2 pm. on Sunday, there will be a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Memorial Arch, featuring active-duty military members and veterans.

Festivities continue on Wednesday, Dec. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Park’s Welcome Center, where visitors can join a lantern-lit guided tour along the Joseph Plumb Martin Trail to the Muhlenberg Brigade, a quarter-mile walk. There, members of the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment, Oneida Indian Nation, 1<sup>st</sup> Rhode Island Regiment, and Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, along with living history interpreters, will be on hand to interact with visitors as they prepare for the historic winter encampment. Throughout the celebration, the Encampment Store and the Friends of Valley Forge Park will offer free gift wrap and complimentary holiday refreshments. All *March-In* activities are free.